

**From:** John Ray [bodinman2003@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** 2/25/2013 1:04:13 PM  
**To:** Dan Powers [dpowers@bsb.mt.gov]; Sparks, Sara [sparks.sara@epa.gov]; Vranka, Joe [vranka.joe@epa.gov]; DalSoglio, Julie [DalSoglio.Julie@epa.gov]; Joe Griffin [jgriffin@mt.gov]; Faulk, Libby [Faulk.Libby@epa.gov]; Greene, Nikia [Greene.Nikia@epa.gov]; Elsen, Henry [Elsen.Henry@epa.gov]; Larry Scusa [lscusa@mt.gov]  
**CC:** holly peterson [hollypeterson@bresnan.net]; hpetererson@mtech.edu; d.keane [d.keane@bresnan.net]; cshaw@bsb.mt.gov; amanda@curtisforbutte.com; dsanderson@bsb.mt.gov; piper.haugan@mtstandard.com; Ian Magruder [ian\_magruder@kirkenr.com]; Pamela ( Tester) Haxby- Cote [Pamela\_Haxby-Cote@tester.senate.gov]; Erik\_Nylund@tester.senate.gov; Kim\_Krueger@baucus.senate.gov; Jake\_Maciag@Baucus.senate.gov; Stacie Barry [stacieb@ncat.org]; steve.ackerlund@bresnan.net  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR PUBLIC ACCESS MEDICAL MONITORING DATABASES

## **Request for Access to Health Monitoring Databases**

If citizens are to have a “meaningful” role in Superfund decision-making and if citizens are to impact Superfund decisions, as mandated by EPA policy, citizens must have knowledge upon which to base their input.

In the spirit of the above, I am requesting that public access be granted to the following databases. (I am not at this time requesting a copy of the data or of any part of the data but I am requesting that interested citizens and representatives of interested organizations be allowed access to view and study this data.)

### **The Blood Lead Medical Monitoring Database**

This is the primary medical database that is being used for the Health Study. Of course there are HIPAA privacy concerns but it is my understanding that the data exists. Over a year ago, the Health Department stated that it was developing a HIPAA compliant database. (Over 10 months ago, I am given to understand, CTEC, the local EPA TAG group was assured that the EPA and the Health Department were working to get such a data base together for CTEC and for the public. If you need more information, contact Ian Magruder who is a technical advisor for the CTEC group or view the CTEC public website.) I assume that that process has been completed and there is in existence a HIPAA compliant Blood Lead Medical Monitoring Database which was shared with the Health Study contractors as well as the Health Study Advisory Committee. I am simply asking that the public be granted the same access to the existing database. If this database has not been completed, what are the Health Study Contractors and the Health Study Advisory Board using? I assume that they are not basing the design and conduct of the Health Study on mystical intuition but on hard data. If they can see and use such data, the public should be able to see and use such data. That is all that I am asking—public access to the database.

### **Arsenic Exposure and Disease Rates Medical Monitoring Database**

Again, data must exist upon which EPA based its decisions. I cannot believe that EPA based its decisions on “educated guess-work.” Again, all I am asking is access to this data. Where is the

test data for urinary arsenic? Prior to RMAP (Residential Metals Abatement Program), what arsenic exposure/disease rate data exists? What arsenic exposure and/or disease rate data related to arsenic exposure has been generated by RMAP? Again, given the EPA's penchant for "good science," the data upon which "good science" decisions were based must exist. Unless there has been a great lapse of proper procedure on the part of EPA, arsenic medical monitoring data must exist. I would like EPA to grant public access to this data.

### **Mercury Exposure/Disease Medical Monitoring Data**

Mercury is one of the three "toxics of concern" on the Butte Hill. I am requesting that the EPA grant public access to such data. What blood level medical monitoring data exists for Mercury? What urine level medical monitoring data exists for Mercury? Does RMAP call for both to be done? Only one? Which one? Are both equally reliable?

### **Summary**

The lead, arsenic and mercury databases I am speaking about must exist. I cannot believe that the EPA would be so derelict in its duty to protect public health and in its commitment to "good science" that it would make decisions now and would have made decisions in the past without such data. So far the public has been denied access to this data even though it was promised months ago that access would be provided. If the public is to meaningfully participate in the design and execution of the Health Study, it must have access to this data.

Failure to provide access to this data would seriously undermine the EPA's public involvement commitment. Failure to provide access to this data would undermine the public's confidence in EPA's decision-making processes and in the Health Study.

Dr. John W. Ray

915 West Galena St.

Butte, Montana 59701

(I am making this request as a private citizen/individual. I am not making this request on behalf of or at the behest of any group or organization.)